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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application

Inventors: DeOrnellas, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/692,007

Confirm. No.: 7175

Filed: October 19, 2000

Title: METHOD FOR USING A HARD MASK FOR
CRITICAL DIMENSION GROWTH
CONTAINMENT

PATENT APPLICATION

Art Unit: 1765

Examiner: L. Umez-Eronini

Customer No. 23910

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on December 24, 2003

Thomas A. Ward (Attorney Signature)
Thomas A. Ward, Reg. 35,732
Signature Date: December 24, 2003

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.114

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants hereby request continued examination of the above-identified utility patent application. The subject patent application was filed on or after June 8, 1995 and this paper is being filed prior to the earliest of: (1) Payment of the issue fee, unless a petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.313 is granted; (2) abandonment of the application; or (3) the filing of a notice of appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit under 35 U.S.C. 141, or the commencement of a civil action under 35 U.S.C. 145 or 146, unless the appeal or civil action is terminated. 37 C.F.R. §1.114(a).

Transmitted with this communication are the following:

✓ A Petition for an Extension of Time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136.

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Previously submitted are the following:

✓ Consider the Amendment(s)/Response under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 previously filed on November 3, 2003.

Small Entity Statement

✓ Applicant(s) qualify for small entity status under 37 C.F.R. §1.27.

The fee associated with this communication has been calculated as shown below:

✓ A fee of \$385.00 is due pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e) for the filing of this Request for Continued Examination.

✓ A fee for extension of time for response under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 of \$420.00 is due.

The total fee required with this communication is \$805.00 and is to be paid as follows:

✓ A check in the amount of \$805.00 is enclosed.

✓ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1325.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 12/24/03

By: Thomas Ward
Thomas A. Ward, Reg. 35,732

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